



#22/IDS
Patent
9/26/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. of: KOCH, Earl D.

Attorney Docket: 27,136-01

Serial No: 09/553,452

Art Unit: 3671

Filed: April 19, 2000

Examiner: Kristine M. Markovich

Title: Temporary Ramp

RECEIVED

SEP 17 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

GROUP 3600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER RULE 1.56

Sir:

The above identified application was originally filed by Applicant's former patent counsel, Mr. H. Vincent Harsha. At Applicant's request, Mr. Harsha transferred Applicant's patent prosecution file to the undersigned. Upon a review of the transferred file in preparation for filing the present Request for Continued Examination, the transferred records do not indicate that an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was ever filed by Mr. Harsha on behalf of Applicant identifying the results of a patent search conducted on or around November 15, 1999.

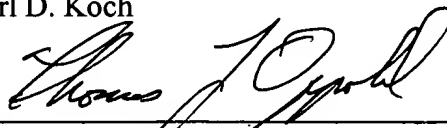
Accordingly, as required by 37 CFR § 1.56, in the event of Applicant's former patent counsel's oversight in not filing an IDS with the Office identifying the references cited in the November 15, 1999 patent search report, enclosed herewith is an IDS (PTO-1449 Form) identifying those references that have not yet been considered by the Examiner during prosecution of this Application. Copies of each of the references cited in the attached IDS are also enclosed herewith. Applicant is not identifying or providing copies of those references identified in the November 15, 1999 patent search report that are already of record.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)(4), since Applicant is filing this IDS before the mailing of a first Office action after filing a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR § 1.114, no fee is required. However, in the event a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required by this correspondence to Deposit Account No. 12-0449.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to: (1) fully consider each of these references in the course of examining the above-identified application; (2) initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 as an indication the references have been considered; and (3) include the references among the "References Cited" in any patent issuing from this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl D. Koch



Date: September 11, 2002

Thomas J. Oppold
Registration No. 42,054
LARKIN, HOFFMAN, DALY & LINDGREN, LTD.
1500 Wells Fargo Plaza
7900 Xerxes Avenue South
Bloomington, Minnesota 55431
(952) 896-3397

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.10, I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement Under Rule 1.56 and accompanying documents relating to utility application entitled "Temporary Ramp", are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service by Express Mail, Post Office to Addressee service, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date of deposit and under the mailing label number indicated below.

Date of Deposit: September 11, 2002

Geraldyn M. Vita

Mailing Label No.: EL416126906US

785823.1